



## SECOND CIRCULAR

# Soil Science in a Changing World

18–22 SEPTEMBER 2011, WAGENINGEN



Mankind is facing unprecedented environmental changes in the 21st century. We are just beginning to grasp the magnitude of our impact on the global environment and the related risks for our societies. We have a choice to make changes to our impact and thereby partly control the environmental changes and its societal consequences.

Climate change. Food security. Water resources. Biodiversity. These evocative titles are not issues that, in the eye of the Public and Politicians, are easily linked to soil scientists. Rather, they are challenges seen to be dealt with by other scientists in multidisciplinary think-tanks linking into Parliamentary commissions and the front page of newspapers. Soil scientists have kept a remarkably low profile in such discussions and think tanks, despite the central importance of soils to all of these issues. In this conference we will discuss the importance of soils and soil science for combating the problems we are facing around the globe.

On behalf of the Soil Science Centre of Wageningen University we would like to invite you to the First Wageningen Conference on Applied Soil Science.

### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

With this conference we want to emphasize the importance of soil science for combating and mitigating the challenges of our time: food security, water resources, climate change, ensuring biodiversity and how to govern these issues and create policy for taking measures.

For this new scientific conference series (formally: Tri-annual Wageningen Conference on Applied Soil Science; informally: Wageningen Soil Meeting), we have chosen a thematic approach in stead of the disciplinary organisation of most conferences. At the first Wageningen Soil Meeting, each conference day will be divided into two thematic parts. Each half day will cover one of the global issues that

The first edition of the Wageningen soil meetings will address the importance of soil scientific knowledge for global issues. We want to address these topics in a dynamic way, by top key-note speeches, challenging debates, inspiring workshops and master classes as well as oral and poster presentations by participants.

The Wageningen Soil Meetings aim to provide a platform for:

- Sharing knowledge of soils across the world and across science,
- Engaging in interdisciplinary exchanges of ideas, thoughts, and opinions,
- Thinking out of the box and being innovative and creative.

will be addressed during the conference. The thematic half days will start with two key-note speeches followed by a lively debate between the two keynote speakers. The content of all keynote speeches will be available for all prior to the conference through the conference website and in the conference proceedings book.

The second part of thematic half days will be organised in parallel sessions. Participants can choose to participate in a workshop or master class or attend one of the oral presentation sessions. In the program ample time will be allocated for poster contributions. See the Programme Schedule for more details.



## Five themes

The Scientific Program will be organized around five themes:



### **FOOD SECURITY – HEALTHY SOILS, HEALTHY PEOPLE**

- Combating the loss of fertile soil (erosion, desertification, salinization)
- Soil productivity/fertility
- Soils and micro-nutrient content of home-grown crops
- The role of organic matter for soil productivity
- Soil information to feed the world



### **WATER RESOURCES – BLUE AND GREEN WATER**

- Water harvesting in dry lands
- Scaling soil-hydrological observations to watershed scale water balances
- Soils as physical and chemical filters
- Optimizing water use efficiency



### **BIODIVERSITY – SOILS AS A HOTBED FOR LIFE**

- Land use change and its effects on soil
- Climate change and soil biodiversity
- Towards a DNA-repository for soil biological research



### **GOVERNANCE AND POLICY – SOILS ON THE GLOBAL POLITICAL AGENDA**

- Millennium Development Goals (MDG's): the contribution of soil science
- EU Water & Soil directives: policy driven soil research
- Ethnopedology: combining local soil knowledge and scientific soil knowledge
- UN convention to combat desertification



### **CLIMATE CHANGE – HOT AND HUMID, SOILS AND MOISTURE**

- Desertification
- Waterproof delta: salt intrusion in coastal areas
- Climate variability, increased soil transpiration
- Carbon sequestration, the role of soil and vegetation



## Programme Schedule

### Soil Science in a Changing World – Conference Schedule

#### SUNDAY

Icebreaker and registration.

#### MONDAY

8.30 – 8.50 Opening address by the chair of the scientific committee prof. dr. Peter de Ruiter.

8.50 – 9.00 Short address by the CRP Theme Coordinator.



#### Theme 1: Global Food Security

Chair: Prof. dr. Holger Meinke

9.00 – 10.30 **Two 30 minute keynote lectures.**  
Keynote 1: Vandana Shiva (invited); Navdanya, India.  
Keynote 2: Bruce Campbell; CCAFS, Denmark.

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee break.**

11.00 – 12.30 **Parallel session with:**

- Two workshops or master classes,
- Two sessions with four oral presentations.

12.30 – 14.30 **Lunch with poster session.**  
Twenty authors present their poster in one minute.

#### Theme 2: Water Resources

Chair: Prof. dr. ir. Leo Stroosnijder

14.30 – 16.00 **Two 30 minute keynote lectures.**  
Keynote 1: Victor Jetten; ITC, Univ. Twente, The Netherlands.  
Keynote 2: Neil McKenzie; CSIRO Land and Water, Australia.

16.00 – 16.30 **Coffee break.**

16.30 – 18.00 **Parallel session with:**

- Two workshops or master classes,
- Two sessions with four oral presentations.

18.00 – 20.00 **Snacks with refreshments.**



## Programme Schedule (continued)

### TUESDAY

All-day **Excursion day, with various options.**

The exact program is still under construction but each excursion will be a combination between a professional and a natural and/or cultural option. Below, a few of the possibilities are listed:

- Excursion to the National Park Hoge Veluwe where management and research on wind erosion will be highlighted, followed by an afternoon visit to the Kröller Muller museum which hosts many (landscape) paintings of Dutch masters such as Van Gogh.
- A visit to the world famous Deltawerken (Delta works), which protect The Netherlands for sea storm surges,

followed by a cultural visit to the World Heritage site Kinderdijk, where a group of windmills is located that has drained a polder around 1740.

- A geological/soil scientific excursion by bus through the western and central part of the Netherlands. The trip will end on the beach along the Dutch North Sea coast.
  - A tour of the Wageningen campus, including laboratories. The afternoon program will consist of a visit to the Wageningen winery.
- More soon...

20.00 **Conference dinner.**

### WEDNESDAY

#### Theme 3: Biodiversity

Chair: Prof. dr. ir. Lijbert Brussaard

8.30 – 10.00 **Two 30 minute keynote lectures.**  
Keynote 1: Diana Wall; Colorado State University, USA.  
Keynote 2: Louisa Jackson; University of California, USA.

10.00 – 10.30 **Coffee break.**

10.30 – 12.00 **Parallel session with:**

- Two workshops or master classes,
- Two sessions with four oral presentations.

12.00 – 14.00 **Lunch with poster session.**  
Twenty authors present their poster in one minute.

#### Theme 4: Governance and Policy

Chair: Prof. dr. Mark Kibblewhite

14.00 – 15.30 **Two 30 minute keynote lectures.**  
Keynote 1: Ladislav Miko;  
EU DG Environment.  
Keynote 2: Luca Montanarella; JRC,  
European Commission.

15.30 – 16.00 **Coffee break.**

16.00 – 17.30 **Parallel session with:**

- Two workshops or master classes,
- Two sessions with four oral presentations.



## Programme Schedule (continued)

### THURSDAY

#### Theme 5: Climate change

Chair: Prof. dr. Rik Leemans (invited)

8.30 – 10.00	<b>Two 30 minute keynote lectures.</b> Keynote 1: Richard Bardgett; University of Lancaster, UK. Keynote 2: Wim van der Putten; NIOO, The Netherlands.
10.00 – 10.30	<b>Coffee break.</b>
10.30 – 12.00	<b>Parallel session with:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two workshops or master classes,</li> <li>• Two sessions with four oral presentations.</li> </ul>
12.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch with poster session.</b> Twenty authors present their poster in one minute.
14.00 – 14.30	Closing ceremony including a concluding address by the CRP Theme Coordinator.



### SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS PUBLICATION

On the website you can submit your abstract, with a maximum of 300 words. The scientific committee will reply to you before the first of June 2011. A selection will be invited to write a full paper for a special issue in the new Elsevier journal 'Current Opinion on Environmental Sustainability'. The full papers need to be delivered at the conference to allow the fast publication of the special issue.

The essays of the topical keynotes will be published on the website and in the conference guide before the conference. Abstracts of scientific contributions will be published in the conference proceedings.

Deadline for abstracts: 30 March 2011  
Replies to authors: 1 June 2011  
Deadline for full papers: 18 September 2011

### REGISTRATION COST AND PROVISION

	FULL FEE	STUDENT FEE
Up to July 15, 2011 (early bird)	€ 475	€ 350
After July 16, 2011	€ 600	€ 400

The registration costs include a delegates pack containing the proceedings, lunches and refreshments every day of the meeting, the mid-conference symposium excursion and the conference dinner.



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### CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations should be forwarded to us only in a written form (e-mail to [wageningensoilmeeting@wur.nl](mailto:wageningensoilmeeting@wur.nl)).  
Up to June 17, 2011: no cancellations fees would be applied.  
From June 18, 2011 through September 2, 2011: 50% of fee.  
After September 3, 2011: no refund.

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### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Chair: Prof. dr. P. (Peter) de Ruiter (WU, NL)

Prof. dr. R.D. Bardgett (Univ. Lancaster, UK)  
Prof. dr. T. Breure (RIVM, Radboud Univ., NL)  
Dr. A.E. Hartemink (ISRIC, Wageningen Univ., NL)  
Prof. dr. K. Kalbitz (Univ. van Amsterdam, NL)  
Prof. dr. M. Kibblewhite (Cranfield Univ., UK)  
Prof. dr. R. Lal, (Ohio State Univ., USA)  
Dr. L. Montanarella (EU-JRC, IT)  
Prof. dr. J. Poesen (Catholic Univ. of Leuven, BE)  
Prof. dr. W.H van der Putten (NIOO, NL)  
Prof. dr. K.V. Ragnarsdottir (Univ. of Iceland, IS)  
Prof. dr. S. Rousseva (Poushkarov Inst. for Soil Science, BG)  
Prof. dr. H. Verhoef (Free Univ. Amsterdam, NL)  
Prof. dr. T. Scholten (Univ. of Tübingen, DE)  
Prof. dr. S. Thiele-Bruhn (Univ. of Trier, DE)  
Prof. dr. D. Wall (Colorado State Univ., USA)  
Prof. dr. I. Young (Univ. of New England, Australia)  
Prof. dr. J. Bouma (Wageningen Univ., NL)  
Prof. dr. L. Brussaard (Wageningen Univ., NL)  
Prof. dr. H. Meinke (Wageningen Univ., NL)  
Prof. dr. W. van Riemsdijk (Wageningen Univ., NL)  
Prof. dr. L. Stroosnijder (Wageningen Univ., NL)

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### SIDE EVENT

European Soil Bureau Network annual plenary meeting.

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### PARALLEL SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE

- Two master classes organized by the ISRIC on World Soil Information.
- Master class on quantitative water and soil characteristics calculations,
- Master class 'from soil eco-system services to monetary value'.

Additional master classes will be announced in due course.

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### VENUE AND HOUSING

#### Wageningen City of Life Sciences

Venue: Hof van Wageningen, Wageningen, The Netherlands. [www.hofvanwageningen.nl](http://www.hofvanwageningen.nl).  
Housing possibilities are offered on the website.

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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